



Drug/Drug Class:	Sympatholytics PDL Edit	
First Implementation Date:	January 5, 2017	
Revised Date:	January 12, 2023	
Prepared For:	MO HealthNet	
Prepared By:	MO HealthNet/Conduent	
Criteria Status:	<ul><li>□ Existing Criteria</li><li>⋈ Revision of Existing Criteria</li><li>□ New Criteria</li></ul>	

### **Executive Summary**

Purpose: The MO HealthNet Pharmacy Program will implement a state-specific preferred drug list.

Why Issue Selected:

The sympatholytic agents are indicated for various functions for example, treatment of hypertension, anxiety, panic disorder, post-traumatic stress disorder and withdrawal symptoms from opioids. The oral, centrally-acting, alpha-2 adrenergic receptor agonists include clonidine and guanfacine. Methyldopa continues to be used to treat hypertension in pregnant women. A diuretic, usually hydrochlorothiazide or chlorthalidone may be combined with clonidine or methyldopa. The sympatholytics are typically part of a multiple antihypertensive drug regimen for participants who have not reached their target blood pressure. Clonidine is also available in a transdermal formulation for the treatment of hypertension.

Total program savings for the PDL classes will be regularly reviewed.

#### Program-Specific Information:

Preferred Agents	Non-Preferred Agents
Clonidine Patch	Catapres® Tabs
Clonidine Tabs	Catapres-TTS® Patch
Guanfacine	<ul> <li>Clonidine ER 0.17 mg tabs (gen</li> </ul>
<ul> <li>Methyldopa</li> </ul>	Nexiclon <sup>™</sup> )
	Lucemyra®
	Methyldopa/HCTZ

Type of Criteria: ☐ Increased risk of ADE ☐ Preferred Drug List ☐ Clinical Edit

Data Sources: ☐ Only Administrative Databases ☐ Databases + Prescriber-Supplied

### **Setting & Population**

- Drug class for review: Sympatholytics
- Age range: All appropriate MO HealthNet participants

# **Approval Criteria**

- Failure to achieve desired therapeutic outcomes with trial on 3 or more preferred agents:
  - Documented trial period for preferred agents OR
  - Documented ADE/ADR to preferred agents
- For Lucemyra:
  - Documented diagnosis of opioid withdrawal AND
  - o Documented trial period of clonidine oral OR patch

# **Denial Criteria**

Lack of adequate trial on required preferred agents

<ul> <li>Therapy will be denied if all approval criteria are not met</li> </ul>			
Required Documentation			
Laboratory Results: Progress Notes: Other:			
Disposition of Edit			
Denial: Exception Code "0160" (Preferred Drug List) Rule Type: PDL			
Default Approval Period			
1 year	_		

#### References

- Evidence-Based Medicine Analysis: "Sympatholytic Antihypertensives", UMKC-DIC; July 2022.
- Evidence-Based Medicine and Fiscal Analysis: "Sympatholytic Antihypertensive Agents Therapeutic Class Review", Conduent Business Services, L.L.C., Richmond, VA; July 2021.
- USPDI, Micromedex; 2022.
- Facts and Comparisons eAnswers (online); 2022 Clinical Drug Information, LLC.